

REMARKS

1. Interview Summary Record; Claim Amendments

1.1. We thank the Examiner for according Counsel a telephonic interview on May 22, 2008.

In the interview, the Examiner agreed that claim 67 was allowable, and that claim 27 would be allowable if the amino acid subsequences corresponding to each domain were specified in the claim and basis pointed out.

1.2. This supplemental amendment is enterable as of right. An RCE with a request for three month suspension was filed on March 26, 2008. The request was approved on May 23, and hence the three month period expires on August 23. A supplemental amendment filed during that period is entered automatically, per 37 CFR 1.111(a)(2)(ii).

1.3. Claim 67 has been made the main claim, in place of now-cancelled claim 58. Claim 67 has been amended to clarify the operation of the "substitution mutant sequence".

Claim 27 has been amended to specify that the collagen-like domain of human L-ficolin is AAs 29-67 of SEQ ID NO:125, and the CRD (carbohydrate recognition domain) domain of human MBL is AAs 14-125 of SEQ ID NO:126.

Basis for this amendment can be found directly in the description as filed. Thus, SEQ ID 139 is identical to SEQ ID 125 except that SEQ ID 139 also comprises the N-terminal signal peptide. On p. 16, l. 1-3 in the application as originally filed (i.e. the version wherein some SEQ ID numbers are missing) SEQ ID 139 is described. It is stated that AA 1-25 corresponds to the signal peptide, AA 26 to 313 corresponds to the mature chain (and thus is identical to SEQ ID 125) and AA 54-92 corresponds to the collagen-like domain. AA 54-92 of SEQ ID 139 corresponds exactly to AA 29 to 67 of SEQ ID 125¹.

¹ Please note, that in the last response we stated that the collagen like domain corresponds to AA 26 to 67, which is a slightly different boundary. But we prefer that the claim cites AA 29 to 67, because of the explicit basis in the application as filed.

SEQ ID 8 is identical to SEQ ID 126 except that SEQ ID 8 also comprises the N-terminal signal peptide. On p. 66, l. 16 to 22 in the application as originally filed, SEQ ID 8 is described. It is stated that AA 1 to 20 corresponds to the signal peptide and AA 134 to 245 correspond to the carbohydrate recognition domain CRD. AA 134 to 245 of SEQ ID 8 corresponds exactly to AA 114 to 225 of SEQ ID 126. This is consistent with the position we took in the last response.

We deleted the phrase "wherein said first polypeptide sequence is capable of activating the lectin-complement pathway," from both claims 27 and 67. With the sequence limitations of the claims and the limitation regarding the function of the fusion protein, which is required to be capable of activating the lectin-complement pathway and associating with one or more carbohydrates, we believe that the functional limitation of the first polypeptide sequence is no longer required.

Besides claim 58, we have cancelled claims 23, 25, 71-73, 75, 88, 89, 112, 61, 76 and 86.

We finally direct the Examiner's attention to table II in the last response. This table shows that our mutants r4 and r5 possess hybrid collagen-like domains. We attempted to cover this by claim 87, then dependent on 58. In view of the concerns expressed by the Examiner, we have amended claim 87 to recite specific subsequences. The same is true of new claims 113 and 114.

Respectfully submitted,

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